

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 11, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Navarro, President Montgomery County Council 100 Maryland Avenue Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council President Navarro: ZTA 18-14 Farm Alcohol Production-Standards-

RE-1 and RE-2 zones

On behalf of the Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee-AAC, please accept this letter as our comments in support of ZTA 18-14.

The AAC understands how this ZTA 18-14 will apply the Farm Alcohol Production standards adopted on October 2, 2018 to properties located in the Residential Zones RE-1 and RE-2 with a few additional requirements.

Since the County Council adopted ZTA 18-03, the Office of Agriculture has received several requests from residents that are interested in learning how to begin farm alcohol production in the County. Some of these requests also involve farmers looking for opportunities to plant and process alternative crops that can be used in the production of farm alcoholic beverages.

The AAC believes farm alcohol production will result in new farm businesses and new jobs being created that the County truly needs. The AAC is proud of the County Council for adopting farm alcohol production to help promote farming and agricultural production in the County.

The AAC will participate in the County Council Committee Work Session to discuss any amendments that are offered.

The AAC would like to thank you for this opportunity to present our views on ZTA 18-14 and please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Doug Lechlider, Chairman

Cc: Marc Elrich, County Executive

